

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.  
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BULLETIN OF THE TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

PRICE 20 CENTS P.A.

May the message of Christmas bring joy to your heart;  
May the New Year be happy for you from the start.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, 21st November 1968 at 7.45 p.m. in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle Street.

Dr P.S. Lake from the Zoology Dept of the Tasmanian University will be the speaker. His talk is entitled "Aspects of Water Pollution". He will discuss in particular some of the biological effects of

- (i) pesticides (insecticides), and
- (ii) heavy metals as agents of pollution,

Auction of Camp Gear:

Saturday, 23rd November, 1968 commencing at about 10.00 a.m. at Mr Sargison's residence, 33 Mortimer Ave., New Town.

It will be necessary to have all the items displayed beforehand for the benefit of both the auctioneer and the prospective buyers. It has NOT been possible to arrange for this to be done on Tuesday, 19th as was stated in the last Bulletin, and it is now likely that we will do this in the early evening of Friday, 22nd November. If you are able to assist in the displaying of gear at any time prior to the auction would you please let the Secretary know as soon as possible? Your help would be greatly appreciated. Phone: 8 0111 (ext. 273) - business.

72 6723 - private.

Bird Observers Group:

The next meeting will be on 29th November at the Wireless Institute Room, Liverpool Street. A discussion will be held on "Common Names of Birds".

Essay Competition:

Dr Bryden from The Museum has judged the entries submitted in this year's competition for Junior members, and has awarded the prize to Nigel Brothers. The prize will be presented at the next meeting. Although the number of entries was small, the standard was high. Nigel's project on "Lambert Park" particularly impressed Dr Bryden.

New Members:

Nominations for membership have been received from Mr & Mrs Linton-Coombe.

Annual General Meeting:

After the November meeting and the auction there will be no further Club function until the Annual General Meeting on the third Thursday in February - the 20th. In the meantime we shall be able to watch the passage of the Scenery Preservation and Wildlife Act through Parliament.

Exchange Publications:

This Club receives those publications corresponding to our Tasmanian 'Naturalist', but produced by Field Naturalists Clubs of other states. The July 1968 issue of the North Queensland Naturalist contains an interesting article about Zambia (ex North Rhodesia) by Joan Wright. For example:- "Zambia has natural and artificial lakes, just as North Queensland has. Lake Kariba, formed by the damming of the Zambezi River where it flows through a narrow, rocky and exceedingly hot gorge, is a vast inland sea.... It has changed the local weather by evaporation from its huge surface and may even have caused some earth tremors by its weight.... Kariba is used for hydro-electric power exclusively..... Blue gums have been introduced into many parts of Zambia for making straight poles. African trees are very poor pole-producers because they are hacked at by the Bantu and crippled every year by bush fires. The umbrella tree here seems to me to be unique and characteristic of the small rain-forest trees..."

(Ed. note: May I include a portion of a Sept. letter from my parents who are at present living in Lusaka, Zambia. - "...It amazes me how the trees continue to live & produce blossom. The city is a mass of jacaranda trees in full bloom; they are a beautiful sight. The flamboyant trees are just coming into flower, there is another tree covered with bronze coloured flowers, and the brightest coloured bougainvillea covers everything. The sight down some of the streets just takes my breath away - and yet at the Garden Club meeting the other night the members were wishing they could get seeds of Australian flowering gums - a case of distant fields seem greener?" G.A.M.)

The South Australian Naturalist of June 1968 contains information on the efforts of the S.A. Field Nats to reserve a National Park for the Hairy-Nosed Wombat in Blanchetown Area. "The wombat, a native marsupial, which formerly inhabited large areas of the State, has now been exterminated in all but a very few localities. Two species of wombats are found in S.A., the smooth nosed species & the hairy nosed species. The preservation of the latter is the responsibility of S.A. because its habitat is now confined almost entirely to this State...."

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